

What is claimed is :

1. An information display apparatus, comprising:

a gateway system for converting protocols of an external network and a
5 local network for information exchange between the external network and local
network ;

a plurality of terminals connected to the local network ; and

an information server for storing various information transmitted from the
external network or local network, transmitting the information to each terminal in
10 an on-hook status thereof after checking the on-hook status of the terminal, and
displaying the information on a display unit of the terminal.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of terminals are PC
phones and Internet phones using Internet protocols for data communication.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each terminal includes a
memory means for storing information transmitted from the information server, and
a control means for controlling the storing of the transmitted information in the
memory means of the terminal.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the control means of the
terminal judges a call status of the terminal itself.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the possible call status of the
25 terminal is one of an on-hook status or an off-hook status.

6. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the terminal includes a display means for displaying information stored in the memory means of the terminal.

5 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information server includes a memory means for storing various information transmitted from the external network, and a control means for judging the respective call status of each of the plurality of terminals.

10 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the control means of the information server transmits the information stored in the memory means thereof to each terminal in an on-hook status.

15 9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the control means of the information server updates contents of the memory means of the information server when new information is received thereby.

20 10. An information display apparatus, comprising:
a plurality of terminals connected to a local network ; and
an information system for converting protocols of an external network and the local network for information exchange between the external and local networks, storing various information transmitted from the external network or local network, checking a call status of each of the plurality of terminals, transmitting the stored information to each terminal during an on-hook status thereof, and
25 displaying the information on a display unit of the terminal.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the plurality of terminals are PC phones and Internet phones using Internet protocols.

5 12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein each terminal includes a memory means for storing information transmitted from the information system, and a control means for controlling the storing of the transmitted information in the memory means of the terminal.

10 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the control means of the terminal judges a call status of the terminal itself.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the call status of the terminal is one of an on-hook status or an off-hook status.

15 15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the terminal includes a display means for displaying information stored in a memory means of the terminal.

16. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the information system
20 includes a memory means for storing various information transmitted from the external network and a control means for judging a call status of each of the plurality of terminals.

25 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the control means transmits information stored in the memory means thereof to each terminal during an on-

hook status thereof.

18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the control means of the information system updates contents of the memory means of the information system when new information is received.

19. An information display method, comprising:

storing information such as various advertisements, guides, bulletins, etc. transmitted from an external network or a local network ;

transmitting the stored information to a plurality of terminals during an on-hook status thereof after judging a call status of the plurality of terminals connected to the local network ; and

controlling the plurality of terminals so as to display the received information.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein in the transmitting step the stored information is transmitted to the plurality of terminals based on judging a call status of only a pre-selected one of the plurality of terminals.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the controlling step comprises the sub-steps of:

storing the received information at each terminal ;

judging the call status of each terminal storing the information ; and

displaying the stored information on each terminal during an on-hook status thereof.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the judging step further comprises:

ceasing the display of the stored information on the terminal when the
5 terminal assumes an off-hook status, and again displaying the stored information
when the terminal next assumes an on-hook status.

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